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Letter dated 13 September 2000 from the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of Cameroon, Ghana, Tunisia, Uganda and Zimbabwe addressed to the President of the Security Council

Under Security Council resolution 1192 (1998), a solution was reached to the question of Lockerbie. This solution called for the trial of the two suspects before a Scottish Court sitting in the Netherlands, the suspension of the sanctions imposed on the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya once the suspects had appeared before the Court and the lifting of those sanctions in accordance with paragraph 16 of Security Council resolution 883 (1993) and paragraph 8 of Security Council resolution 1192 (1998), upon the presentation of a report by the Secretary-General 90 days after the suspension of the sanctions.

Recalling the resolutions of the African summit conferences in Harare (1997), Ouagadougou (1998), Algiers (1999) and Lomé (2000), we would like to state that, 15 months after the deadline mentioned in paragraph 16 of Security Council resolution 883 (1993) for the lifting of the sanctions; 18 months after the appearance of the two suspects before the Scottish Court in the Netherlands; and about 5 months following the start of the Court's proceedings, and despite the full cooperation of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya with the Court (S/1999/1183), the Security Council has not been enabled to lift the sanctions.

The Organization of African Unity, which, together with the League of Arab States, is a principal party to the solution reached, deeply regrets the fact that the Security Council did not adopt a resolution lifting the sanctions imposed on the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya immediately after the submission of the report of the Secretary-General to the Security Council, which indicated the implementation by the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya of all its commitments (see S/1999/726).

The Libyan people have the right to have strong suspicions and to be impatient, and would be justified in whatever position they decide to take. Likewise, the Organization of African Unity has every right to express its deep concern over this situation.

The five-member committee entrusted by the Organization of African Unity to follow up the question of Lockerbie pays great tribute to the cooperation of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya with the Scottish Court in the Netherlands and calls on the Security Council to lift the sanctions immediately and irrevocably.

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We would be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Augustin Kontchou **Kouemegni**
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(*Signed*) James Victor **Gbeho**
Minister for Foreign Affairs of Ghana

(*Signed*) Habib Ben **Yahia**
Minister for Foreign Affairs of Tunisia

(*Signed*) Eriya **Kategaya**
Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Uganda

(*Signed*) Dr. Stanislaus I. G. **Mudenge**
Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Zimbabwe